



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
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December 5, 2016

TO: All County Departments' Facility Managers

FROM: Shari Afshari *Shari Afshari*
Deputy Director
Department of Public Works

COUNTY DEPARTMENT COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 1826: COMMERCIAL ORGANIC WASTE RECYCLING

This memorandum provides an update regarding the applicability of commercial organic waste recycling requirements of State law Assembly Bill 1826 (AB 1826) to County departments. AB 1826, which was enacted in 2014, requires businesses, including government facilities, to arrange for organic waste recycling services. Organic waste includes food scraps, green waste, and food soiled paper. The timing and applicability of the recycling requirements depend on the amount of waste a business generates per week according to the tiered schedule shown below.

Date	Tier	Compliance Threshold (amount of waste generated weekly by the business)
April 1, 2016	1	8 cubic yards (organic waste)
January 1, 2017	2	4 cubic yards (organic waste)
January 1, 2019	3	4 cubic yards (commercial solid waste)
January 1, 2020	4	2 cubic yards (commercial solid waste) – conditional on meeting state recycling goals

To assist County departments in complying with State law, the Department of Public Works conducted a review of County facilities that receive waste hauling services via contracts administered by Internal Services Department (ISD). Using the service level information provided by ISD along with organic waste generation factors derived from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery's waste characterization studies, Public Works developed estimates of organic waste generated at these County facilities and identified facilities that fall within Tier 1 and Tier 2. A memorandum was sent to all County departments in March 2016, with a list of facilities that are within Tier 1. **A revised Tier 1 list and a Tier 2 list are attached.**

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County facilities that receive waste hauling services through other contracts, such as landscaping contracts, are not included in these lists as Public Works does not have information on all County facility waste hauling contracts.

Public Works and ISD are ready to assist you with subscribing to organic waste recycling services. On November 1, 2016, new waste hauling agreements were established with the three existing waste haulers (USA Waste, Southland Disposal, and Universal Waste Systems) that include organic waste recycling services. To learn more about these services, please contact Carla Leung of ISD at (323) 267-2209 or Lois Giron of ISD at (323) 267-2271.

If a facility is within Tier 1 or Tier 2, there are several options to comply. The facility may:

1. Source separate organic waste from other waste and subscribe to a basic level of organic waste recycling service that includes collection and recycling of organic waste.
2. Recycle the organic waste onsite or self-haul the organic waste to an approved organics processing facility.
3. Subscribe to an organic waste recycling service that may include mixed waste processing that specifically separates and recycles organic waste.

Public Works is available to assist your department in further determining which tier your facilities fit in, as well as provide recommendations on options that are most suitable for specific facilities. Facilities that have a large number of employees, extensive landscaping, or house large numbers of patients or inmates are very likely to meet the thresholds of Tier 1 or Tier 2. **Therefore, each facility is advised to review its waste hauling invoices to verify the level of service received and to contact Public Works for assistance in determining which Tier is applicable to the facility.**

If your current waste hauler does not provide organic recycling services, you may contact any of the County's appropriate nonexclusive commercial franchise waste haulers on Attachment 3 to contract services for organic waste recycling.

If you would like assistance in determining the applicability or implementation of the State law at your facility or if you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Clark Ajwani at (626) 458-4991.

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Attach.